Public Health and Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

A special meeting of the Public Health and Safety Committee (PH&S) was held on Monday, March 8, 2010, in room 206 of Town Hall. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss and vote on item 10-8, Code of Ordinance amendments relating to the Health Department.

Members present: James Patrick, Vice Chair; Barry Baldwin; Michael Burke;

Dr. Robert C. George; Sue Maguire; Donna Melz; Susan LeHan;

Jennifer Sommer; and Mary Guimond, Clerk.

Members absent: Carolyn Schoonmaker, Chair; Jim Cameron; and Shelley Carder

Guest: David Knauf, Director, Darien Health Department

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Vice Chair, James Patrick. Mr. Knauf then reviewed changes to the Health Department ordinances. These changes were approved unanimously the Board of Selectmen on January 25, 2010. A portion of the changes involve amending and/or repealing ordinances for wells, septic systems, food service, public pools and salons which will then be adopted as regulations without substantive change. New regulations for septic and wells are proposed that reflect current Connecticut health code requirements and do not represent any policy changes or costs. New lead regulations adopted last year are included. In addition, some existing regulations unrelated to the Health Department are being eliminated. The Clam Harvesting ordinance has been left intact and will be addressed later this year. Mr. Knauf answered many questions related to the ordinances specifically and also answered questions regarding water quality, water testing, restaurant inspections and the new rating system. At this point, Mr. Knauf was excused from the meeting.

Dr. Robert C. George expressed his desire to have access to all the Health Department ordinances, not just the amendment reflected in item 10-8 upon which the RTM will be voting. Ms. Guimond agreed to provide a softcopy of the Health Department ordinances to all PH&S members. Ms. Maguire motioned to delay the PH&S vote on item 10-8 until the regularly scheduled meeting on March 15, prior to the RTM meeting. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted on March 9, 2010

Mary Guimond, Clerk